

Message Text

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21

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00 INR-07

NSAE-00 DODE-00 /040 W

----- 048228

R 121542Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY LAGOS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 644

INFO AMCONSUL IBADAN

AMCONSUL KADUNA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LAGOS 7736

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PGOV, NI

SUBJECT: PANEL TO STUDY LOCATION FEDERAL CAPITAL NAMED

REF: (A) LAGOS 7627; (B) LAGOS 7367; (C) LAGOS 7254

1. AS HE SAID HE WOULD JULY 30 (REF C), BRIGADIER MUHAMMED'S ADMINISTRATION HAS APPOINTED AN EIGHT-MAN PANEL TO "EXAMINE THE DUAL ROLE OF LAGOS AS A FEDERAL AND STATE CAPITAL, AND ADVISE ON THE DESIREABILITY OR OTHERWISE OF LAGOS RETAINING THAT ROLE." PANEL CHARGED WITH RECOMMENDING WHICH OF TWO GOVERNMENTS (FEDERAL OR STATE) SHOULD MOVE IF LAGOS FOUND "UNSUITABLE" HOUSE BOTH. SHOULD IT DETERMINE THAT FEDERAL CAPITAL OUGHT TO BE MOVED, PANEL IS TO RECOMMEND "SUITABLE ALTERNATIVE LOCATIONS (PLURAL), HAVING REGARD TO THE NEED FOR EASY ACCESSIBILITY TO AND FROM EVERY PART OF THE FEDERATION."

2. TO HEAD THE PANEL, FMG NAMED RESPECTED HIGH COURT JUDGE OF WESTERN STATE, DR. TIMOTHY AKINOLA AGUDA. ANABEOKUTA YORUBA AS IS THE SMC'S NUMBER TWO, BRIGADIER OBSANJO, AGUDA SERVED ALMOST THREE YEARS ON SECONDMENT AS CHIEF JUSTICE OF BOTSWANA (1972-74). THE JUSTICE WAS THE FIRST BLACK AFRICAN TO HOLD THE BOTSWANA POST.

3. THE OTHER SEVEN MEMBERS OF THE PANEL ARE: COLONEL

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MONSIGNOR PEDRO MARTINS, ARMY CHAPLAIN. TAI SOLARIN, HEADMASTER,

MAYFLOWER SCHOOL, IKENNE, NEWSPAPER COLUMNIST, AND PROFESSIONAL CRITIC OF NIGERIAN GOVERNMENTS AND POLICIES. HE WAS PLACED IN DETENTION BY PREVIOUS REGIME FOR HIS OUTSPOKEN OPPOSITION TO CONTINUING MILITARY RULE. CHIEF OWEN FIEBAI, IDENTIFIED BY PREY AS A JOS-BASED LEGAL PRACTITIONER. ALHAJI MOHAMMED ISMA, BUSINESSMAN AND ONE TIME GENERAL MANAGER NORTHERN STATES MARKETING BOARD. BROUGHT INTO LATTER JOB TO "CLEAN HOUSE" AND PROVED ENERGETIC AND FORCEFUL. DR. AJATO GANDONU, GEOGRAPHY LECTURER, LEICESTER UNIVERSITY. PROFESSOR O. K. OGAN, UNIVERSITY OF NIGERIA, CALABAR CAMPUS. MALAM M. BASHIR, SENIOR POLICE OFFICER, NORTH CENTRAL (KADUNA) STATE.

4. THE PANEL HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO SUBMIT ITS REPORT BY DECEMBER 31, THIS YEAR.

5. COMMENT: HOPE SPRINGS ETERNAL.
CROSBY

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Message Attributes

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